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Allegiances

LightClan

Leader: Shinystar: She cat with golden fur that shines in the light of the sun.

Deputy: Sharpfang: She cat with dark gray fur, and two sharp front fangs

Medicine Cat: Silvertail: old white she-cat with a silver tail.

Apprentice: Dawnpaw: Golden she-cat with green eyes.

Whitestone: Solid white tom

Apprentices: Sunpaw: pale orange she-cat

Oneear: White tom with one battle-torn ear

Apprentice: Lionpaw: Golden tom with a shaggy pelt.

Darktail: White tom with a jet black tail.

Apprentices: Tinypaw: Tortoiseshell she-cat with one small paw.

Graypaw: White tom with gray spots

Whitestripe: Pale silver, almost white, tabby tom.

Apprentice: Oakpaw: brown tabby tom

Cinderleaf: pretty dark gray she-cat

Daisyfur: Cream-coloured she-cat with green eyes.

Blackpelt: Solid black tom with amber eyes

Brightfur: Light gray she-cat

Darkstorm: Dark tabby tom

Redclaw: White tom with dark ginger paws and a dark ginger tail.

Apprentice: Stonepaw: Pale gray tom.

Queens

Sparkpelt: White she-cat with tiny flame-coloured spots around her pelt.

Elders

None

Medicine cat

Silvertail: Old, white she-cat with a silver tail.

SmokeClan

Leader: Ashstar: Dark gray tom with forest-green eyes.

Deputy: Tawnytail: Black and tortoiseshell tom.

Medicine Cat: Adderfur: pale orange brown tabby tom.

Apprentice: Snowpaw: White tom with a black tail.

Warriors

Shadowpelt: Dark gray she-cat

Amberheart: Pale orange she-cat with amber eyes

Swiftfoot: Fast Light gray tom

Leafeye: she- Cat with White fur and leafy green eyes

Nightfur: Black tom with dark brown spots

Apprentice: Honeypaw: Pale Ginger she-cat

Thornfur: tom with Prickly Fur always sticking out

Blazefur: White and orange tabby

Frostflower: Bluish-whitish cat

Flowerheart: Pretty tabby she-cat; pale Ginger fur.

Elders

Frostear: Old tom with black. Fur and one white ear

Lostfoot: Dark gray tom with a missing paw.

Swiftclan

Leader: Spottedstar: White She-cat with Jet black spots

Deputy: Crowtail: jet black tom

Medicine Cat: Tawnychest: Black she-cat with a tawny colored chest.

Apprentice: Talonpaw: Brown tom with a white chest

Warriors

Ravenfeather: Black tom.

Darkpelt: Dark brown She -cat with a jet black tail

Foxtail: red tom with a black tail-tip.

Apprentice: Webpaw: White tom with black stripes.

Shrededfur: Tom with brown fur, shredded with scars.

Softfur: light brown tabby with really soft fur

Oddfur : a red, brown, and white furred cat

Queens

Softcloud: white she-cat

Skyeye: light gray cat with sky blue eyes

Goldenfur: Golden furred tabby

Elders

Lionpelt: shaggy pale orange tom

Stoneear: white cat with gray ears oldest cat among the clans

MistClan

Leader: Rainstar: Pale silver tabby tom.

Deputy: Peachpelt: A pale orange she-cat.

Apprentice: Volepaw dark brown tom.

Medicine Cat: Daisypetal: Pale cream-colored she-cat.

Warriors

Dustfur: Grayish-brown tom

Apprentice: Lionpaw: Golden tabby she-cat.

Thicktail: she-cat with a long thick tail

Apprentice: Stripedpaw: Pale tabby tom.

Stoneheart: Light gray she-cat with dark gray spots.

Apprentice: Leafpaw: Brown she-cat with green eyes.

Fastheart: White tom; fastest cat of MistClan.

Frostface: Black cat with a white head.

Queens

Frostcloud: White cat with puffy, thick fur.

Tornflower: Brown tabby with a lot of scars.

Elders

Crowclaw: Jet black tom.

Cats outside of the Clans

Henry: Black tom with amber eyes

Mary: White she-cat with black spots

Fluffy: Fluffy white she-cat

Night: Black tom

Stormy: Dark gray she-cat

Ash: Dark gray tom

Cloud: Fluffy, white tom

A/n

This is book two by the way. I strongly suggest you read my first book.

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Prologue [Edited]

"I will get my revenge! If I can't hurt you, I will hurt one that you love!" A black tom shouted.

"What do you want me to do? I broke every part of the warrior code just by seeing you. I have finally found a mate in my Clan. I gave you our kits to take care of and now, I must do what is right. " A dark gray she-cat yowled.

"Warrior code? You must choose between your Clan, or me! Or I will do something bad. Something that will make you wish you never met me." The black tom turned away and picked up the black kit. "I hate you. " he hissed to the gray she-cat as he stalked off the opposite direction with the kit in his jaws.

Chapter 1 [Edited]

Blackpelt, Brightfur, and Darkstorm sat awkwardly sat in the middle of the camp, not saying one word. They were not the only ones who were keeping a vigil. Shinystar and others were mourning Goldfur who had been killed by a rouge named Mousepelt.

The sun began to rise and the stars began to fade.

"Your vigil is over. Go eat, and then go rest." Shinystar meowed.

Blackpelt went to the fresh-kill pile and selected a mouse.

"We are ready to bury Goldfur." Sharpfang meowed. Her voice was hoarse and she looked depressed.

"Okay. Maybe we can go hunting at sunhigh. " Blackpelt suggested.

"Sure. Now get some rest." Blackpelt nodded and took a bite out of mouse.

"Some night. " Meowed Brightfur.

"I know. Everything is different."

"Hey, Bright*fur*! I have to get used to your name now." Meowed Graypaw, Brightfur's brother.

"Hi Graypaw. " Brightfur mewed.

"Lucky you! Darktail says we need to work on our combat moves before we become warriors."

"You will be a warrior soon. Don't worry."

After Blackpelt finished his mouse, he found himself padding to the warriors' den.

"Finally!" He meowed with excitement. He padded inside and found

an unoccupied spot.

Brightfur and Darkstorm padded in and took their spots.

Brightfur choose a spot right beside Blackpelt.

"So this is what it feels like to be a warrior." Brightfur meowed.

"That's not all to it. We have to deal with battles and apprentices and -" Blackpelt was cut off by Darkstorm.

"Will you two keep quiet? It's been a long night and I just want to sleep. "

"He is right. " Blackpelt meowed. "I'm so tired I could sleep for a moon. "

He curled up in the moss and fell asleep.

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Blackpelt woke up at sunhigh. Brightfur and Darkstorm were still sleeping.

He padded outside and saw Sharpfang, the new deputy.

"Up for some hunting? " She asked.

"Yup. Let's go."

We padded outside the camp. Blackpelt spotted a crow eating little crumbs. He pounced at it and finished it off.

Sharpfang was chasing a mouse, her footsteps so loud, she could scare all prey many fox-lengths away.

At last, Blackpelt caught, and finished off, the mouse.

"Sharpfang are you feeling alright?" Sharpfang was one of the best hunters in the entire forest.

"Sit down." She said while looking down at her paws.

Knowing that he was going to listen to a story, Blackpelt sat down.

"Did you see me kill Mousepelt?" She asked.

"Yes, I did."

"Well part of me says I shouldn't have done that."

"Why is that?"

"Because Mousepelt is my brother." She announced.

Blackpelt's amber eyes widened in surprise.

"Brother?"

"Yes. Mousepelt and I could never be seperated as kits. We spent all our time together and shared all our secrets. When we were apprentices, we got into the most trouble. We once snuck over to the MistClan camp just to see how it was like there. A MistClan patrol found us and escorted us back to camp and told Shinystar what we had done. We got in so much trouble. We tried our best to fight side by side and catch a lot of prey so we could become warriors at the same time. We did become warriors at the same time but shortly after, just two moons before I found you, He left the Clan to be a rouge. I was so mad. I told him I hated him and I hoped he would die in a battle. I just never knew that I was the one who would kill him."

"Oh Sharpfang, I am so sorry. "

"I had another littermate. Her name was Ravenkit. She reminds me of you. She had the same black pelt, always eager to learn, she stayed out of trouble, a fast learner and a good friend. "

"Had? What happened to her?" Blackpelt asked.

"She went missing when we were kits. We think she died. "

"Maybe she is not dead! Maybe we could find her!"

"Favor Blazepaw and Stonepaw. They might not be your real

littermates, but you grew up with them."

"Sharpfang, I need to ask you something. "

"What is it?"

"Well..." Blackpelt hesitated, asking himself if this was the right time to speak.

"Speak. I have to go soon. We don't have all day."

"When you found me, as a kit," Blackpelt searched for the right words. "Where do I come from? Who are my parents? Do you know?"

Sharpfang stared at Blackpelt for a long time. Then she looked at her paws again and spoke.

"I found you by a fallen tree." She finally said.

"So you don't know?"

"Let's just continue hunting. I have some duties to go do."

Without saying a word, they continued to hunt.

Why did she dodge my question? Blackpelt asked himself. *Is there something I don't know about?*

Chapter 2 [Edited]

"Sneak attack!" Someone pounced at Blackpelt from behind and he dropped to the ground. The cat was attacking him with sheathed paws. Suddenly, another cat began to attack him.

Soon, the cats got up and let Blackpelt up.

"Blazepaw? Stonepaw?" He meowed, looking at his foster littermates. "You two are good at fighting."

"That's why we are going to be made warriors. " Blazepaw said.

"Warriors? That's great! I don't know about you but I don't think It's right for the younger littermate to be the first to be made a warrior."

"You deserved it, Blackpelt, and your only a moon younger than us. It's not much of a difference." Blazepaw mewed.

Suddenly, Blackpelt heard Shinystar yowl on the rock.

"Time for our warrior ceremony." Stonepaw meowed.

The Clan began to gather.

"Blazepaw. " Shinystar started. "You have worked hard enough to understand the ways of the noble code. Do you promise to defend this Clan even at the cost of your life?"

"I do."

"Then your warrior name shall be Blazeheart. Stonepaw, do you promise to protect your Clan even at the cost of your life?"

"I do."

"Then you shall be known as Stonefang."

"Blazeheart! Stonefang! Blazeheart! Stonefang!"

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"Blackpelt!" Blackpelt heard a voice calling his name.

"Huh?" He mewed while opening his eyes.

"Let's go hunting." Blackpelt saw Sharpfang waiting for him.

"Fine, I'm coming. " He brushed of the moss of his pelt, and padded outside of the den. The stars were fading in the dawn sky.

He followed Sharpfang to the fallen tree.

"This is my favorite hunting spot." She meowed.

"Didn't you find me here?"

"Yes."

Blackpelt sniffed the air for prey but instead, he smelled a cat from another Clan.

"There is a SmokeClan cat here!" He exclaimed.

"I know. " Sharpfang meowed. "Come on."

They leaped across the fallen tree and there was a dark gray she-cat waiting.

"Shadowpelt?" Blackpelt meowed surprisingly.

"Look at you! You're a warrior now." She mewed.

"What is going on?" Blackpelt was concerned to know what Shadowpelt was doing in LightClan territory.

"I have stuff to tell you." She meowed.

"What is it?" Blackpelt sat down

"Sharpfang told me about how you asked about where you came

from. I am here to tell you."

"How would *you* know? You were not there when she found me!" Blackp.elt hissed.

"Oh, Blackpelt, you don't know." Shadowpelt mewed calmly.

"Know what?"

"Blackpelt, I am your mother."

Chapter 3 [Edited]

He stood there, motionless.

"Blackpelt? How do you feel?" Sharpfang mewed.

Blackpelt opened his jaws to speak, then he ran towards the camp.

"I feared he might do this." Shadowpelt murmured as she flattened her ears and lowered her tail.

"I don't blame him. I would probably do the same if I were him." Sharpfang meowed.

"He probably hates me now."

"No he does not. I'll talk to him. Just try to come to the gathering tonight. And if not, meet at the Fourtress tomorrow at sunhigh."

"I will try." She murmured as she padded towards her own territory.

Sharpfang walked to the camp and went to the warriors' den.

"Blackpelt?"

"He is not talking. " Brightfur answered.

Blackpelt was curled up in his moss nest. His head was facing the den walls.

"Blackpelt, I understand if you don't want to talk about it."

The black warrior remained still, without saying a word.

"Blackpelt?"

"Please, just leave me alone." he muttered softly.

"Okay. I will see you later then." Sharpfang left the den and noticed that the fresh-kill pile was empty.

"Darktail, can you go on hunting patrol?" She asked.

"Sure, Sharpfang. Who shall I take?" He meowed.

"Take Whitestripe and Cinderleaf."

"Alright. Sharpfang, you have moss caught in your fur. I'll help get it off."

He unsheathed his claw and untangled the moss from her fur.

"Thanks, Darktail."

"It's no fuss. "

Sharpfang nodded as Darktail padded towards Whitestripe.

"Hi, Sharpfang!" Spottedkit greeted.

"Hi Spottedkit. Where is you brother and your sis-"

"Spottedkit! Why are you away from the nursery? I told you to stay there. " Sparkpelt scolded her.

"I am sorry, Mother. I just wanted to get away." Spottedkit retorted.

"You're on strict control after that badger attack." Sparkpelt made Sharpfang recall the day when Spottedkit left the camp and got attacked by a badger. Blackpelt and Brightfur saved her when they were still apprentices.

"Go to the nursery and take a nap with your siblings." The kit padded to the nursery, leaving Sharpfang and Sparkpelt alone.

"They're almost apprentices." She mewed. "Have you thought of their mentors?"

"Not yet. I have to discuss it with Shinystar."

"Sharpfang!" Sharpfang turned and saw Shinystar.

"Yes, Shinystar?:

"I want to know if Graypaw and Tinypaw are ready to be made warriors. They have been training for a long time now."

"I've sent Darktail on hunting patrol, so we have to wait until he comes back."

"Very well, then. Have you thought about who is going to the gathering tonight?"

"Well, I was thinking we should take Blazeheart, Stonefang, Darkstorm, Brightfur, Blackpelt, Graypaw, Tinypaw, Whitestone, and Darktail."

"That is great. We shall take the newest warriors. Shall we take one more apprentice?"

"Sunpaw?"

"Probably. I need to think about her warrior ceremony too. It's long overdue."

"That is true."

"Okay. We will take them."

Sharpfang padded to the warriors' den.

"Blackpelt, I just wanted to tell you that you're going to the gathering tonight."

"Fine. I'll go if no one talks to me."

"Alright."

"Sharpfang, May I talk to you?" Brightfur asked.

"Sure, Brightfur. We can talk outside. "

They exited the den.

"It's about Blackpelt. Do you know what's wrong with him?"

"Yes, Brightfur. I do. You might find out why at the gathering. "

"Thanks, Sharpfang."

She padded back to the warriors' den.

Chapter 4 [Edited]

"Come on. It's time to go." Brightfur mewed.

Blackpelt lifted his head up and padded outside.

He looked down during the entire walk to the Fourtress. At one point, he bumped into Darkstorm.

"Pay attention, you lazy lot!" he spat.

"Leave him alone, Darkstorm. " Brightfur spat back at him.

When they reached the Fourtress, Sharpfang went to meet Shadowpelt.

Shadowpelt padded up to Blackpelt soon after.

"Blackpelt," She started. Blackpelt tried to avoid her green gaze.

"Blackpelt, look at me, Please." Blackpelt finally looked at her.

"What is it?" He muttered.

"I just want to know how you feel."

"You want to know." Blackpelt began to raise his voice. "I feel like my whole life is a lie!"

"Blackpelt, keep it down! Do you know how much trouble I can get in?"

"I am sorry."

"I'm sorry you feel that way, but you wanted to know, and I just wanted to help you. I have more to tell you but you have to promise to meet me here, at the Fourtress, tomorrow."

"I will."

"Good."

Soon, the gathering started. Ashstar spoke first.

"I would like to apologize for not helping to fight off the rouges. We were attacked by them and we were to weak to fight them again."

"LightClan understands, Ashstar." Shinystar spoke. "We would also like to thank MistClan and SwiftClan for helping. We are joined by a lot of new warriors tonight. Blackpelt, Brightfur, Darkstorm, Blazepaw, and Stonepaw."

"MistClan has new warriors too." Rainstar spoke.

The four leaders began to talk about news in the Clans.

After what seemed like forever, they finally went home.

Chapter 5 [Edited]

The dawn sky was easy to see through the tiny holes in the warriors' den.

Blackpelt was in the den, with most of the warriors.

He padded outside, to the fresh-kill pile, where there was three rabbits, four mice, and a vole.

He decided to eat the vole, his favorite prey. He lowered his head to grab the vole, when a flash of movement caused him to look up; and there was Darkstorm, picking up the vole that Blackpelt was going to eat.

"Your slow." He muttered.

"Doesn't matter. That was *mine*." Blackpelt unsheathed his claws.

"Did you catch it? No. Therefore, It is not yours."

Blackpelt rolled his eyes and grabbed a rabbit.

When he finished it, he saw the evening patrol returning. Sharpfang went to go talk to Darktail. Soon after, she went to talk to Shinystar. The leader gave her a nod and stepped on the rock.

"May all cats old enough to catch their own prey, join me under this rock for a Clan meeting."

Blackpelt sat down and looked up at the leader.

"These apprentices have worked hard to understand the noble code of our warrior ancestors. Sunpaw, you have been training for many moons. Do you promise to defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?"

"I do." mewed the pale ginger she-cat.

"Then you shall be known as Sunfur. Graypaw. Do you promise to defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?"

"I do." Graypaw answered.

"Then you shall be known as Grayspots. Tinypaw, your one small paw did not stop you from becoming an excellent hunter and a great fighter. Do you promise to defend your Clan even at the cost of your life?"

"I do."

"Than you shall be known as Tinyclaw."

"Sunfur! Grayspots! Tinyclaw!"

Brightfur went to go congratulate her bother.

Sharpfang padded up to Blackpelt.

"Are you ready to go?"

"Yes." They padded to the entrance and heard Brightfur catching up to them.

"Where are you going?" She asked.

"To go do something. "

"May I come?" Blackpelt looked at Sharpfang for a moment.

"Let her come. We can trust her." Blackpelt nodded.

"Thanks."

They walked about half way to the Fourtress, when Brightfur began to question.

"What is going on? What are we doing?"

"We are going to go meet a SmokeClan cat."

"Why? Who is it."

"She is Shadowpelt and she is..." Blackpelt began to lower his voice. "My mother."

"Mother? Really?"

"I know it is hard to believe and I am going through mixed emotions right now, but it is true."

"Wow."

When they reached the Fourtress, Shadowpelt was already there.

"Greetings."

"This is Brightfur. She is a good friend of mine." Blackpelt introduced.

"Nice to meet you. I am Shadowpelt. So Blackpelt, I want to tell you some things. You know that I am your mother already but you need to know who your father is."

"Who is he?"

"His name was. . ." She let out a sigh. "Henry."

"Henry? Who is he?"

"He is a kittypet."

"Kittypet? Did you know about this, Sharpfang?"

"I knew that Shadowpelt was your mother and she lost her kits." She murmured.

"Kits?"

"You heard right, Blackpelt. You have siblings." Shadowpelt replied.

"What happened?"

"I fell in love with Henry. I knew I would be in big trouble with my Clan if they ever found out who your father was. When you were just born, less than a moon old, I took you to Henry to take care of

you kits. Henry had a sister with her own kits who helped to take care of you. Your siblings were named Ash, a dark gray tom, who looks like me, band Stormy, a dark gray she-cat, who also looks like me. You were the only one who looked like your father; black fur, with amber eyes. Do you remember your old name?"

Blackpelt dug deep into his thoughts.

"I honestly do not remember anything from before the day that Sharpfang found me."

"Crow. Your name was Crow."

"So how did I end up here?"

"Well, after I gave Henry the kits, I fell in love with Whitefeather, who died from wounds. I thought it was right to tell your father, but he got mad. I told him that it was a right thing to do, but he still got mad. He said he would hurt the one I love. He said he hated me and that he would do something I would never expect. That's when I started to regret giving you up." She looked into Blackpelt's eyes. "He abandoned you. I don't know about your brother and sister but when Sharpfang said that she found a black kit with amber eyes, I just knew it was you. It had to be Crow. It had to be you, Blackpelt."

Chapter 6 [Edited]

"That dream, that was the cat!" Blackpelt exclaimed.

"What cat? What dream?" Shadowpelt asked.

"I had a dream not too long ago. I was in an unfamiliar place and I was alone. Then a black cat appeared. I could not make out the face but it was a black cat. He said 'Enjoy life' and then he ran off. The cat must have been Henry!"

"Great StarClan! Do you think it was a message?" Shadowpelt asked.

"I don't know."

"If it was a prophecy, that would be odd because usually medicine cats and Clan leaders got prophecies. Maybe it was a sign." Sharpfang added in.

"Should I talk to Silvertail, or Shinystar?"

"No. It might have just been dream."

"Or maybe a flashback." Shadowpelt added.

"I have to get back to camp. It was nice meeting you, Brightfur. And thank you, Blackpelt for coming. I'll see you later, Sharpfang." Shadowpelt mewed her goodbyes and left.

"Can you two keep a secret?" Blackpelt asked.

Brightfur and Sharpfang looked at each other and nodded.

"Good, because I don't want anyone to know."

"Don't worry, Blackpelt. Your secret is safe with us." Brightfur meowed.

Chapter 7 [Edited]

"All cats old enough to catch their own prey, join me under this rock for a Clan meeting." Shinystar yowled.

Sharpfang told Blackpelt that he was going to get an apprentice. He wished it was not Spottedkit. She seemed very clumsy, playful, and loud, compared to Frostkit and Branchkit.

"These kits are now six moons old amd are ready to become apprentices. Branchkit, Frostkit, Spottedkit, you will be now known as Branchpaw, Frostpaw, and Spottedpaw. Branchpaw, Darkstorm will be your mentor."

Darkstorm touched noses with his new apprentice.

"Frostpaw," She looked at the white she-cat. "Brightfur will be your mentor."

Brightfur touched noses with her.

This only meant one thing- Blackpelt had to mentor Spottedkit.

"Spottedpaw, your mentor will be Blackpelt."

Blackpelt padded over to the white-and-brown apprentice and touched noses with her.

"Frostpaw! Branchpaw, Spottedpaw!"

Shinystar dismissed the meeting.

Blackpelt was starring at Spottedpaw, awkwardly.

"When will we start training?"

"Tomorrow." Blackpelt murmured.

"But it is sunhigh!" She protested.

"Well, I want to train you tomorrow."

"But Brightfur and Darkstorm took *their* apprentices out." She pointed her tail at the four cats leaving the camp.

"Well I am not Brightfur or Darkstorm."

"But I want to be the best warrior ever!"

Blackpelt began to get annoyed, so he thought she would shut up if he gave her what she wanted.

"Fine, Spottedpaw, have it your way. We will just see the borders and then that is it." Without giving her a chance to answer, Blackpelt exited the camp.

"Great StarClan!" He grunted softly as Spottedpaw came from the entrance of the camp.

They went to the SmokeClan border.

"That is SmokeClan. What do you smell?"

"Some cats. A mouse. What's that?" Spottedpaw's green eyes widened as she stepped a paw over the border.

"Just what do you think you are doing?" Blackpelt exclaimed.

"Sorry,"

"Sorry doesn't cut it. If a SmokeClan patrol saw you, they probably would have riped you to shreds!"

Spottedpaw flattened her ears.

"Look, Spottedpaw, cheer up. I did not mean to yell at you. Just promise to never step foot on another Clan's border unless it is urgent. Do you understand?"

Spottedpaw looked up and nodded, without saying a word.

"Let's go then."

After showing Spottedpaw all the borders, they were on their way back to camp.

"Will you teach me how to hunt, Blackpelt?"

"Fine. There is a mouse over there. I'll teach you how to catch it." Blackpelt crouched down low and stalked up on the mouse. Finally, he pounced at it and finished it off.

"You try with that mouse over there."

"How can you smell that? You're not even close to it."

"I have a very strong sense of smell." Blackpelt began to wonder if he got that from either Shadowpelt, or Henry.

"Wow." Spottedpaw stalked the mouse and chased it. Soon, she caught it and bit finished it off.

"Nice job. Now let's get back to camp."

Chapter 8 [Edited]

The sun had risen three times since Blackpelt got his first apprentice.

Sharpfang asked him to go on hunting patrol with Whitestone, Stonefang, and Oakpaw.

For once, he had a chance to get some quiet time without Spottedpaw.

"Wow, It's hot. Is there a puddle around?" Oakpaw asked.

"I have not seen one yet, but I can go for a drink too." Blackpelt replied.

"I found one." Said Whitestone.

"What a relief!" Blackpelt exclaimed as he dipped his head to drink.

Oakpaw drank next, then Whitestone, then Stonefang.

"Blackpelt!"A voice called.

Blackpelt turned around, wondering who called him.

"Blackpelt!" Blackpelt began to recognize the voice and the scent.

"StarClan help me!" He groaned as Spottedpaw jumped out of the ferns, scaring pretty much all the prey in the forest.

"What is it, Spottedpaw? Why are you not at camp?"

"I wanted to hunt with you, so I tracked down your scent."

"Does Sharpfang know your here?"

"No, I sorta snuck out."

"Remember what happened last time you 'snuck out'?"

"I was a kit then! I am more mature now!"

Yeah, right! He thought.

"And plus, there are no more badgers." She added.

"You don't know that."

"Well anyways, I am staying with you."

"Spottedpaw, please go back to camp."

"No! I am staying. Don't tell me what to do."

Blackpelt glanced at the rest of the patrol.

He started to feel embarrassed since his apprentice was acting out.

He felt like clawing some sense into her.

"Are you going to let her talk to you like that? She is *your* apprentice!" Whitestone told him.

"No, Whitestone, I am not going to let her talk to me like that. Spottedpaw,"

He looked at the apprentice in the eye.

"Go to camp, *now!*"

"Why should I listen to *you?*"

"Because I am your mentor. You must do what I say."

"I am not leaving."

"That's it! I tried to be nice. Can you three cover for me while I drop off this rude apprentice?"

"I'm not rude! Don't call me that!" Spottedpaw spat.

Whitestone let out a sigh before he spoke. "Alright, Blackpelt, we will cover for you, this time." He padded up to Blackpelt and

whispered something in his ear.

"Control your apprentice."

Blackpelt nodded and turned back to Spottedpaw.

"Let's go!"

"You can't make me go!"

"I will pick you up and carry you like a kit, if I have to."

"No."

Rage filled through Blackpelt. "Fine, we will do it the hard way."

Moments later, Blackpelt was dragging Spottedpaw to the camp. He had a good grip on her scuff, so no matter how much she squirmed, she would never break free.

"Let me go!" She shouted.

Blackpelt rolled my eyes and kept on dragging the apprentice.

When they reached the camp, Sharpfang was the first to notice us.

"Blackpelt, your back early. Where is the rest of the patrol?"

"They are still on patrol. I came to drop off this disrespectful apprentice of mine."

"Spottedpaw, where were you? I was going to send out a patrol to look for you."

"I went to join Blackpelt and the patrol."

"Did anyone ask you to go?"

"No, but I am old enough to make my own decisions."

"Decisions? I make the decisions around here, along with Shinystar. Blackpelt, Why did you have to drag your apprentice over here?"

"Because I told here many times to go to camp but she was being too disrespectful to obey me. I had to leave the patrol and drag her over here."

"Is that so? Well get back to patrol. I'll keep an eye on her and if she leaves my sight, she will face some serious consequences."

"Do you hear that, Spottedpaw? That means absolutely no sneaking off." I remarked.

"I know what it means, you stupid -"

"I'm going to have to teach you manners and respect!" I muttered as I left the camp.

Chapter 9 [Edited]

Silvertail

I change the POVs a lot.

Silvertail was at the Fourtress, for some reason. It was raining heavily.

She heard a screech; a loud one. She turned around, only to see a gray cat, in a pool of blood.

She could not make out her face, but the she-cat was still alive, but not for long.

Silvertail tried to step forward but she couldn't move. "I need to help her!" She said to herself.

Suddenly, darkness filled the sky and the air got thinner, making it hard to breathe.

Then, there was someone behind her.

"Beware, Silvertail. Beware of danger that no one will suspect."

"Grayclaw?" She reconized the voice of the gray tom who had died from Greencough.

"The sky will fill with darkness. A warrior will reveal his biggest secret. No one you will suspect."

StarClan began to fade.

"No! Don't go yet!"

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Silvertail woke up scrabbling in her nest. There was moss and ferns scattered everywhere.

"Silvertail? Are you okay?" Meowed the soft, little voice of Dawnpaw.

"Yes, just a bad dream. Do you need anything?"

"Not really. I was just checking on you."

"I'm fine. Do you want to come to the gathering tonight?"

Dawnpaw's eyes gleamed with pride. She had never been to a gathering before.

"Yes! I would be honored to come!"

"Then let's eat. Can you get some fresh-kill? "

"Sure." She stalked off to the fresh-kill pile and came back with a squirrel. She dropped the squirrel near Silvertail's paws.

"Thanks."

After they shared the squirrel, Silvertail sorted out the herbs.

Later on, they were ready to leave.

When the gathering begun, Rainstar spoke first.

"Ashstar, My patrols say that your warriors have been seen a lot in our territory. Please stop sending your hunting parties to our territory."

"My warriors have not! Our territory is big enough. We have been short on prey near the border between SmokeClan and MistClan if I do say so myself." Ashstar protested.

"What are you accusing us of?" Rainstar challenged while he unsheathed his claws.

"Isn't it obvious? MistClan is stealing prey!"

"You must be mistaken, Ashstar. I don't send hunting parties in an other Clan's territory. Unlike SmokeClan."

"Mistaken? You must be mistaken! You don't want to play with SmokeClan like that, Rainstar, or there will be consequences."

"If we catch another SmokeClan patrol, we will shred them into pieces."

Silvertail glanced up at the sky. Clouds began to cover up the moon.

"StarClan is angry." She muttered lowly to Dawnpaw.

"Rip us to shreds? I would like to see you try!" Ashstar growled.

"You think SmokeClan is so great, don't you? You think your better than everyone else but I swear, I will show you who is better."

Ashstar growled and revealed his teeth, his claws unsheathed, and his tail twitching back and forth.

"Rainstar, you just made a terrible mistake."

Shinystar stepped between them.

"Stop it! StarClan is angry! You both know better than to challenge each other at gatherings!"

"She is right. You must stop! I'm sick of this behavior! If we have to dismiss gatherings early every moon because of the way you two act, then how are we ever going to deliver news? This gathering is over." Spottedstar replied.

"May StarClan remove all fleas from your nest tonight, Spottedstar." Shinystar meowed.

"And may StarClan banish all of yours." Spottedstar replied.

Chapter 10 [Edited]

Shadowpelt

Ashstar led the Clan down the hill, towards the border.

Before they crossed, Ashstar turned to them.

"Tawnytail, Thornfur, Shadowpelt, Honeypaw, Blazefur, Amberheart, Nightfur, we are here to show MistClan who they are playing with. Are all of you ready to teach them a lesson?"

Shadowpelt nodded along with the others.

"Then let's go. Tawnytail, stand by me. Everyone else, follow Shadowpelt. Shadowpelt, make sure that everyone is further away from Tawnytail and I. Don't be too far from us because I will signal you to come forward. You're in charge of the group. Now let's go."

Shadowpelt waited a few moments before leading the group.

As they crossed border, she noticed how moist the ground was becoming.

Suddenly, Shadowpelt heard a hiss.

Ashstar and Tawnytail were facing a patrol of three warriors, and an apprentice.

"Okay, Get ready to fight. Be quite, and wait for Ashstar's signal." The cats obeyed Shadowpelt.

"What are you doing here?" Shadowpelt recognized Peachpelt, the MistClan deputy, with Fastheart, Dustfur, and Stripedpaw.

"We came to teach MistClan a lesson." Ashstar snarled.

"You and what army?" Peachpelt growled as she unsheathed her claws.

Ashstar lashed his tails and the group emerged from the ferns.

The MistClan cats were startled.

"Stripedpaw, get more warriors!"

The apprentice ran off towards the camp.

With a flick of a tail, they jumped into battle.

Fastheart was standing in front of Shadowpelt, challenging her.

"Come on, attack me. Do it." She taunted.

Fastheart attacked, causing Shadowpelt to fall.

She got back up and pounced at Fastheart. She pinned him down and clawed his face until he broke free and ran away.

Soon, the whole patrol had fleed.

"We did it. Let's go home now." Thornfur mewed.

"Don't be a coward! More warriors are coming!" As she said that, Rainstar was leading his warriors to them.

"Well, what do you have here? Intruders?" Rainstar growled. "I thought I warned you to keep your warriors in your territory, Ashstar."

"Well, we are here now. If you want to fight us, fight us. But just know that we will win!"

"I'm not to sure about that!" Rainstar lashed his tail and more warriors and apprentices appeared.

The two leaders stared at each other for a long time. Ashstar flicked his tail and there was more battling.

Shadowpelt was flayed into the bushes, landing on her hind leg. She tried to get up. She had to leave now. Her leg looked seriously injured.

A lot of the patrol fled, just leaving Ashstar, Tawnytail, and Shadowpelt.

"Ashstar, there is too many cats! We have to go!" Tawnytail yowled while he swiped a claw on another cat.

"No, Tawnytail, we must show them who is better."

"Ashstar, I'm not letting you use up your last three lives on a battle. This is a battle we cannot win."

Ashstar let out a sigh. "Retreat." He called out. "You win this time, Rainstar!"

Shadowpelt finally got up and limped back to camp.

"Is your leg okay, Shadowpelt?" Tawnytail asked.

"I don't know. I'll be fine."

"You should at least see the medicine cat."

"I'm fine."

"But-"

"I'm fine, Tawnytail. Don't worry about me."

"Alright."

Chapter 11 [Edited]

Blackpelt led Spottedpaw to the training hollow.

"Alright, Spottedpaw. Fight me."

"I thought this day would never come!" Blackpelt rolled his eyes as Spottedpaw pounced at him. He doged, remembering the moves Sharpfang had taught him when he was an apprentice.

Spottedpaw tumbled into ferns and stood up. She tried again but Blackpelt doged once more, which made her tumble again.

"Slow." Blackpelt thought that if he could taunt her, she would fight better. Spottedpaw pounced again. This time she hit Blackpelt, but he stood there, still standing, while Spottedpaw fell to the ground.

"Weak."

Spottedpaw tried again but she fell and Blackpelt remained standing.

"Stop fighting like a kit!" This time, rage filled into her eyes.

"I'm not a kit!" She yowled as she pounced at him. This time, Blackpelt fell over.

"Better." He meowed as he forced himself to his paws. "My turn!"

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Blackpelt left the camp, hoping he would remain unseen. He walked to the Fourtress and sat there.

"Shadowpelt?"

"Here." Shadowpelt limped through the ferns and sat down.

"What happened to your leg."

"A battle. Don't worry about it."

"But your limping, and your not as fast as you used to be!" He cried.

"I'm fine. Dont worry."

"Okay. How is prey running?"

"Good." Shadowpelt launched up to catch a bird but due to her leg, she fell.

"Are you okay? " Blackpelt asked.

"For the last time, Blackpelt, I'm fine."

Blackpelt caught the bird and dropped it at Shadowpelt's paws.

"No, keep it." She meowed as she forced herself to her paws.

Blackpelt smelled an unusual scent of a cat.

"Who is that?" Blackpelt pointed his tail to a black cat in the distance.

"Get down!" Shadowpelt exclaimed. Blackpelt obeyed.

"I thought he would never come back to the forest!" She hissed.

"Who is that?" Blackpelt asked once more.

"That's Henry!"

"Henry? What is he doing here?"

"I don't know but he does not know that you're alive. I'm afraid what he might do to you if he found out if you *were* alive."

"I can take him on."

"Just shut up and stay down."

Soon, the black tom left.

"If I catch him in SmokeClan territory, I'll shred him to peices!"

"Blackpelt!" A voiced called out.

Blackpelt rolled his eyes. "What do you want, Spottedpaw?"

"How did you know it was me?" Spottedpaw appeared.

"I have a strong sense of smell, remember? And plus, your loud."

"Who is your friend, Blackpelt?" Shadowpelt mewed.

"This is Spottedpaw, my apprentice."

"Nice to meet you, Spottedpaw."

"Who is this? She's not in our Clan."

"This is Shadowpelt, my mother. "

"Mother? When Blackpelt was a kit, did he annoy you?"

"I didn't really see him grow up as a kit."

"Why?"

"Spottedpaw, why are you away from camp?" Blackpelt asked, trying to change the subject.

"I followed you."

"Spottedpaw,"

"Please don't tell Sharpfang! I don't want to get in trouble!"

"Fine. Just promise me that you won't tell anyone that Shadowpelt is my mother, and don't tell anyone I came to meet her."

"I won't, I promise."

"Good. We should go now, Shadowpelt. Shall we meet here tomorrow at dawn?"

"Or I can meet you by the fallen tree."

"But what if your leg cannot take you that far?"

"It's okay. I need to exercise so this leg can get better, anyways."

"I'm just worried about your leg."

"No worries, Blackpelt. I'll be fine."

Chapter 12 [Edited]

"Brightfur?"

"Huh?"

"Will you go hunting with me?"

Brightfur looked up.

"Blackpelt, It's dawn! And It's raining! Can't we go at sunhigh?"

"I just want to go see Shadowpelt." Blackpelt lowered his voice so no one could hear him.

"Alright, I'm coming."

They left the camp and started heading for the fallen tree.

Blackpelt began to explain to Brightfur about the meeting the previous day and how Shadowpelt had an injured leg. He also told her about how they spotted Henry, in the forest.

"Henry? What was he doing?"

"I don't know. He looked like he was looking for something."

"Weird."

Blackpelt began to smell a familiar scent.

"Spottedpaw, I know your there."

"Mouse-dung!" The apprentice spat.

"Are you going to meet Shadowpelt?" She asked.

"Yes." Blackpelt replied.

"I'm starving." She said.

"We have not eaten before we left. Let's hunt. This can be a perfect practice for you, Spottedpaw."

Blackpelt sniffed the air for prey.

He caught a starling, a raven, and a mouse.

Blackpelt only ate the mouse, and buried the rest to take back to camp later on.

"Are you ready?" He asked.

"Yes." Brightfur answered.

"It's raining heavily." Spottedpaw complained.

"Yeah. My fur is all wet. Lucky for me, It's short."

"Something is not right." Said Blackpelt.

"What do you mean?" Brightfur asked.

"I just feel like something bad is about to happen. Like danger or something."

"Now that you mentioned it, it does feel like something dangerous is going to happen. What do you think is going to happen?"

"I don't know."

Suddenly, a lightning bolt struck through the sky.

"We are here." Blackpelt meowed. "Shadowpelt?" He called. "Shadowpelt, where are you? Shadowpelt, it's Blackpelt." Blackpelt turned to Brightfur.

"She said she would be here!" He exclaimed.

"She is probably on her way. Remember, she has an injured leg. She can't move as fast as us. Let's check the Fourtress."

"Okay."

They walked to the Fourtress

"I hope nothing happened to her." Blackpelt cried.

"She should be fine, right?" Spottedpaw asked.

"I don't know."

They were just a few fox-lengths away from the Fourtress.

"Shadowpelt, are you here?" Blackpelt asked.

He heard a small voice.

"Shadowpelt?"

They took the remaining steps and entered the Fourtress.

"Great StarClan!" Brightfur exclaimed.

Blackpelt looked down and saw a dark gray cat in a pool of blood. The cat was Shadowpelt!

Chapter 13 [Edited]

"Shadowpelt!" Blackpelt cried.

"Spottedpaw, run and get Sharpfang and Silvertail or Dawnpaw. Tell Sharpfang that Shadowpelt is hurt! She knows about her. Hurry!

The apprentice dashed off.

"Shadowpelt, can you hear me?"

"D-darkness." She stuttered softly.

"She's alive!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"Who did this to you?"

"D-darkness... i-it's so d-dark."

"Darkness? What are you talking about?"

"I-it's d-dark!"

"Can you see me?"

"N-no."

"She's blind!"

"I found some cobwebs!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"Thank StarClan!" Blackpelt placed the cobwebs on her wounds and tried to treat it.

"I need more cobwebs! She lost a lot of blood!"

"That was all I could find!"

"StarClan help her! Shadowpelt, do you know who did this to you?"

"c-come here, Blackpelt."

Blackpelt curled up beside her.

"I-m not g-going to make it."

"Don't say that! Help is on the way!"

"N-no Blackpelt. StarClan is w-waiting for me!"

"Shadowpelt, don't die on me! You will be fine." But even Blackpelt knew that was not true. She had lost a lot of blood, Blackpelt was surprised she was still alive.

"Even though you did not raise me. . . you were a good mother."

"And y-you were a great son. I-I love you."

"I love you too." Blackpelt mewed softly.

Shadowpelt took her last breath.

Soon, her body grew colder, but her eyes were still open. Shadowpelt was dead.

Chapter 14 [Edited]

"What is going on here?" Shinystar demanded.

"Great StarClan!" Sharpfang exclaimed.

"Let me take a look at her!" Said Silvertail.

"It's too late." Blackpelt mumbled.

"No!" Sharpfang exclaimed. "Please don't tell me-"

"She's dead, Sharpfang. She died moments ago."

"Blackpelt, I'm so sorry!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"What is going on!" Shinystar demanded once more. "Blackpelt speak to me."

"S-she-"

"He won't be able to talk." Brightfur pointed out.

"Why is that? She's not even in our own Clan!"

"Shadowpelt is my m-mother." Blackpelt answered softly.

"Mother?"

Brightfur explained the story about Shadowpelt and Blackpelt.

"How long have you been meeting each other?"

"For about a moon."

"Well, although you broke the warrior code, I am not mad. Please escort her body back to SmokeClan."

"I-I can't. I'm not ready."

"Well, take her at sunhigh. You have plenty of time until then to mourn her."

"Yes, Shinystar."

"Shadowpelt? Is she really gone?" Sharpfang asked.

"Yes."

Blackpelt curled up right next to my dead mother.

"She was my best friend! Even if we are in different Clans, she was always there for me! What am I going to do now?"

"I don't know. But once I find who ever did this to her, I swear, they will pay."

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"Blackpelt, It's time." Brightfur whispered.

Blackpelt looked up at the sky and let out a sigh.

"Alright, let's do it."

"I'm coming with you." Sharpfang said. "You can't enter SmokeClan alone."

"Thank you, Sharpfang."

The fur on Blackpelt's pelt lied flat due to Shadowpelt's blood.

Blackpelt picked up Shadowpelt by her scuff, and headed for the SmokeClan territory.

Sharpfang and Brightfur walked behind him.

"Shadowpelt!" Exclaimed a tortoiseshell tom. "What have you done to her!"

"We found her, Tawnytail." Brightfur answered.

"We have been searching for her all morning! What happened to

her?"

"We don't know yet but she had been killed. We wish to speak with Ashstar."

"I'll escort you there, but I don't think he would be happy to see you here."

Tawnytail led them to the SmokeClan leader.

Several cats gasped at the sight of Shadowpelt's bloody body.

"What do we have here?" Ashstar demanded.

Blackpelt gently lied Shadowpelt on the ground.

"Ashstar, before I speak, I want you to know that we did not kill Shadowpelt."

"Then speak to me in my den."

"I think your Clan needs to hear this, Ashstar."

"Very well then. Speak."

"I knew I had to reveal this eventually. Shadowpelt had lost kits, am I correct?"

"Yes, you are. She lost them when they were very young."

"Well, I am one of her lost kits."

"Are you trying to tell me that Shadowpelt is your mother?"

"Yes, Ashstar. I was just as shocked as you when I found out. Shadowpelt gave us up to our father, Henry, a kittypet. Henry abandoned us when he found about Shadowpelt's love for Whitefeather. That is when Sharpfang found me as a kit. When I found out that Shadowpelt was my mother, I visited her numerous times. I came to visit her at dawn and that is when we found her at the Fourtress."

"That explains why she has been disappearing various times. Thank

you, Blackpelt for bringing her here. Tawnytail, Thornfur, escort these three back to the Fourtress."

Chapter 15 [Edited]

Brightfur

The first stars of Silverpelt had formed.

"Shadowpelt is one of those stars." Blackpelt mumbled.

"It will be okay, Blackpelt. You need to rest." Brightfur urged Blackpelt to the den. Cinderleaf and Whitestone, Brightfur's parents, were already there.

"Blackpelt," Cinderleaf mewed. "We heard about what happened; we are so sorry."

"It happens in life, Blackpelt. You must learn to move on. You will be okay soon." Whitestone added.

"Thanks." Blackpelt curled up in his nest.

"Well, there is something exciting you must know. Daisyfur is having her second litter of kits!"

"Did you hear that, Blackpelt? Your going to have more foster littermates!"

"That's great." He mumbled.

"Blackpelt, get some rest. You had a long day. You have been on your paws since dawn." Brightfur told him.

"I don't think I can sleep."

"Just relax and think about good things. Shadowpelt is in a better place now and there is nothing we can do about it. Remember, I am here for you."

"Okay, I'll *try* to sleep."

"You're a good friend, Brightfur." Cinderleaf complimented.

"It cost nothing to be nice."

Soon, more warriors came into the den.

At around midnight, Blackpelt gasped and scrambled in his nest.

Brightfur up and lied closer to him. She gently licked his ear to comfort him.

"It's okay, Blackpelt. I'm here for you."

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The sun began to rise and the stars of Silverpelt began to fade.

Brightfur barely slept that, night, thinking about Blackpelt. Every time he woke up, she comforted him and told him to go back to sleep. He even meowed "Shadowpelt" softly in his sleep.

"Brightfur? Is that you?"

"Yes, Blackpelt. Are you okay?"

"I don't know."

"Let's get out of this stuffy den and get some fresh-kill."

They left the den.

"Blackpelt?" Meowed Spottedpaw. "I got you some fresh-kill. I know how much you love voles."

"Thank you, Spottedpaw, but I'm not hungry."

"You need to eat, Blackpelt. Just eat one."

Blackpelt poked the vole with his claw. He took a few bites out of it and pushed the rest away from him.

"Don't be stubborn, Blackpelt. That's a small vole. Finish it, or I will have to force you to eat it."

He took a few more bites until he finished it.

"Good. You feel better don't you?"

He slowly nodded.

"If you want, I'll train Spottedpaw today with Frostpaw."

"I can train Spottedpaw myself."

"Alright, but we are training with you."

Brightfur signaled Frostpaw with her tail to come forward.

She got up, and padded to Brightfur.

"Hi Blackpelt. How are you?" She meowed.

"I'm fine."

"Frostpaw, we will be training with Blackpelt and Spottedpaw today."

"Okay."

The four of them went to the training hollow.

"Okay, Frostpaw, attack me. And use the moves I have been teaching you."

Frostpaw got into a crouch and pounced at Brightfur. She doged but she pounced again, this time, knocking Brightfur over.

"You're fast. You're going to be a great warrior."

Brightfur glanced at Blackpelt who was slowly teaching Spottedpaw some moves.

"Blackpelt, let me train her. Just for today. You could watch."

"Go." Blackpelt mumbled at Spottedpaw, pointing his tail at Frostpaw and Brightfur.

"Alright Spottedpaw. How fast are you?"

Chapter 16 [Edited]

Blackpelt

Three days passed since the tragic death of Shadowpelt. Blackpelt has been deeply depressed since then.

"Blackpelt?"

"Yes, Spottedpaw?"

"Do I have to train with Brightfur today?"

"Yes, Spottedpaw."

"I'm sorry that I have been such a horrible apprentice. I know that's why you don't want to train me anymore." Blackpelt looked up at the apprentice's green eyes.

"Your not a horrible apprentice. Brightfur is just filling in for me since Shadowpelt. I have been so depressed, I barley sleep at night and by the morning, I have no strength to teach you, or hunt. Don't ever think that way again."

"I know I was disrespectful but I just want you to know that I am going to be the best warrior I can be."

"I'm sure you will."

"Spottedpaw, are you ready?" Brightfur called.

"Coming!"

"Brightfur, I need to talk to you."

"What is it Blackpelt?"

"Well, Henry has been appearing in my dreams a lot more often. I think. . . I think I should go find him."

"Find him? Do you even know where he lives?"

"No, but I do know that he lives beyond SmokeClan territory and we spotted him near the Fourtress so he must be close."

"Well, if your going, I'm going with you."

"Then shall we tell Shinystar where we are going, then?"

"I think so." They padded to her den.

"Enter," She meowed.

"Shinystar, I want to go find my father. May we get your permission to travel?"

The leader looked at them, puzzled. Her paws were tucked under her tail and her sleek, golden fur shone, like it was recently groomed.

"Do you even know your father?"

"Yes. Shadowpelt told me. I might have an idea of where he lived."

"You two are brave. Brave enough to travel to an unknown place. Because I trust you two, I will allow you to go. You may leave tomorrow at dawn. Make sure to rest tonight and to get traveling herbs."

"Thank you, Shinystar."

As soon as the first stars of Silverpelt began to form, Blackpelt was ready to sleep. Brightfur too. They were both preparing for the journey to an unknown place.

Chapter 17 [Edited]

Blackpelt opened his eyes. The sun was beginning to come out.

"Are you awake?" Brightfur asked.

"Yes, Brightfur." Blackpelt responded.

"We should be getting ready to leave."

"Yeah, let's go get those traveling herbs." Blackpelt groomed the ferns off his pelt and stepped outside of the den."

"Morning. Have you two slept well?" Sharpfang asked.

"Yes, Sharpfang. We are going to get our traveling herbs." Blackpelt replied.

"I see."

The two cats padded to the medicine cats' den.

"Silvertail," Brightfur called softly.

"Here for the traveling herbs?" The old medicine cat was awake.

"Yes."

"Here you go." Silvertail nudged a bunch of leaves in front of the Blackpelt and Brightfur."

"Yuck! These are terrible!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"I know, but it is going to help us." Blackpelt pointed out as he gulped down the rest of the leaves."

"I'm ready." Brightfur got to her paws.

"Goodbye. Be safe. Remember your fighting moves in case you run into trouble." Sharpfang meowed.

"Goodbye, Sharpfang." Blackpelt pressed against Sharpfang's side, as they said goodbye.

"May StarClan light your path."

As they exited the camp the dawn patrol, Darkstorm, Redclaw, and Oneear were coming back.

"I see you are leaving now." Redclaw meowed.

"What a mouse-brained idea! You don't even know where the cat lives!" Darkstorm spat.

"He is my father. I *must* find him."

"Shut up, Darkstorm. You were the only one who did not have sympathy for Blackpelt. Let him go find his father!" The white-and-ginger tom looked back at Blackpelt and Brightfur.

"I wish you a safe journey."

"Thank you, Redclaw. We shall get going now. See you soon."

The patrol entered the camp, leaving Brightfur and Blackpelt alone.

"Should we go to the Fourtress?" Brightfur suggested.

"No. I don't want to cross another Clan's territory. We will follow our border until we exit the forest."

The two cats followed the border to the end of the forest.

"The Thunderpath! I've never crossed it!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"We should circle the forest until we get near SmokeClan's territory."

"Good idea."

They circled the forest about half-way.

Blackpelt looked up and saw that the sun was up.

Soon, they were outside of SmokeClan's boundaries.

"Where do we go now?" Brightfur asked.

"If he is a kittypet, he must live in a two-leg nest. I think there is some over there."

"That means we have to cross the Thunderpath." Brightfur had a terrified look in her eyes.

"There is barely any monsters here now. We can cross together."

Brightfur began to relax.

"We will cross on three. One. . .Two. . .Three!"

They quickly crossed on the hard, dark ground.

"We did it!" Brightfur exclaimed.

They followed a stone path up a hill. When they reached the top, they could see a river below them.

"Let's rest down there." Brightfur suggested.

"It seems safe. Let's go."

They made their way down the hill to the river.

"It's so hot!" Blackpelt complained.

"Greenleaf is here."

"And Newleaf went by so fast!"

"Newleaf was so hot, it almost felt like Greenleaf."

Blackpelt dipped his head to drink out of the river. As he drank, he saw a reflection of Shadowpelt right next to his. He gasped and took a step back.

"What's wrong, Blackpelt?" Brightfur asked.

"Erm. . . nothing. I just thought I saw something in the river."

Brightfur lied down besides the river and closed her eyes.

After the vision Blackpelt had seen, he only knew one thing- Shadowpelt was with them on this journey.

Chapter 18 [Edited]

Blackpelt opened his eyes and saw that it was sunhigh.

"Brightfur, wake up!" Blackpelt exclaimed.

"Huh?"

"We dozed off! We have to find Henry!"

"Wait, do you hear that?" Brightfur meowed while she got to her paws.

Blackpelt paused to hear. He heard monsters, and talking two-legs, and barking.

"Dogs!" Blackpelt exclaimed.

"And they're headed this way!" Brightfur added.

"We have to swim the river!"

"The river? But I cant swim!"

"Neither can I but we can do it. What ever you do, don't stop moving and keep your head above water. If you sink, I'll catch you, trust me."

Brightfur looked back at the dogs that were getting closer.

"Do you promise you will catch me?"

"I promise."

"Let's go then. "

They got into the river and padded their feet as fast as they could. Blackpelt almost sunk but her kept his head above water. Then he realized something- he could swim! He soon made it to the other

side and gasped for air.

"Blackpelt! Help!" Brightfur's head went under the water and back up. The dogs were now in the water.

Blackpelt jumped in and swam as fast as he could. Brightfur was completely underwater now! Blackpelt went deep inside the river and grabbed Brightfur's scuff before it was too late. He tried to reach the surface, but Brightfur was too heavy.

Shadowpelt, I need your strength! He thought to himself. As soon as that thought rushed through his head, he was able to pull Brightfur and himself up to the surface. He soon reached the other side before the dogs could reach.

Brightfur coughed up water.

"They're getting closer!" Blackpelt cried.

Brightfur continued to cough. Blackpelt had a idea.

He picked up Brightfur's scuff again and tried to move as fast as he could. He found a small cave and hid into it before the dogs could see. He gently lied Brightfur on the ground as she cough even more. Blackpaw pressed a paw on her chest to help her get the water out of her lungs.

She coughed up the last of the water and gasped for air.

"Thank. . .you." She struggled to say.

"Are you okay?"

"I am."

"I'll let you catch your breath before we keep going."

After a few moments, Brightfur got up to her paws.

"Let's continue."

Chapter 19 [Edited]

Blackpelt and Brightfur found there way to the two-leg place.

"How do we know which one?" Brightfur asked. "There is so many."

"We should ask for help. If Henry lived here, he must know a few kittypets.

"Henry, you have returned!" A white tom exclaimed as he stepped closer to Blackpelt.

"It has been so long! Who is your friend here?"

"You must be mistaken. I am Henry's son."

The white tom narrowed his eyes to get a better look.

"Crow, is it really you? You used to be so small!"

"Yes, it is me, but I do not go by that name now. Please call me Blackpelt."

"Wow." The cat glanced at Blackpelt in astonishment "What brings you here?"

"We want to find Henry."

"He used to live here but he ran away with the other cats that lived with him. No one knows where he went."

"Thanks, um. . ."

"Cloud. My name is Cloud."

"Thank you, Cloud."

Cloud jumped on his fence and disappeared.

"What should we do now?" Brightfur asked.

Blackpelt closed his eyes, hoping for an answer.

"Shadowpelt, guide us." He whispered softly.

Soon, the wind was blowing.

"We must follow the wind."

Brightfur looked at Blackpelt, puzzled.

"Did the wind just-"

"Yes, Brightfur. Shadowpelt is guiding us."

Without saying a word, they followed the wind.

They climbed hills and went through allies and hid from two-legs until the sun was down and the stars were bright.

"I'm tired." Brightfur complained.

"There is a bush over there. Let's use that as shelter." Blackpelt suggested.

Blackpelt and Brightfur made their way into the bush.

"I wonder what is going on back in the forest." Brightfur mewed.

"Me too. "

"Blackpelt, can I ask you a question?"

"Sure, Brightfur. What is it?"

"What are you going to do when we find Henry."

"I honestly don't know. I want to ask him why he left me but I'm afraid that he doesn't want to see me."

"I hope things go well between you two."

"Me too."

There was a long silence after that. And soon, Blackpelt and Brightfur both fell asleep.

Chapter 20 [Edited]

The next morning was another hot, Greenleaf day.

"Brightfur, are you awake?"

"I am now."

"Sorry to wake you, but we need to go."

"Can we at least hunt first? There is a lot of birds here, chirping and nibbling on food."

"Yes, let us hunt first."

Blackpelt stepped out of the bush and sniffed the air for prey.

He caught two robins.

"Here, Brightfur." He nudged the robin closer to her.

"Thank you." She dipped down her head and ate the Robin.
Blackpelt ate his robin and looked around.

"Ready?" Brightfur got to her paws.

"Ready."

Blackpelt closed his eyes. "Show us the way, Shadowpelt." The wind blew and the two cats followed It's direction.

By sunhigh, they encountered a field.

"Brightfur, I see cats down there!" Blackpelt exclaimed.

"Really? Let's go then!"

Blackpelt and Brightfur padded closer to the cats.

There were bushes that looked like they could be dens and a pile of

prey. It looked like these cats had set up their own camp.

There was six cats, all looking puzzled. One of them was a black tom with amber eyes.

"Who are you and what brings you here?" The black tom demanded.

"Greetings," Blackpelt calmly meowed. "I am Blackpelt and this is Brightfur."

"You must be one of those stupid Clanners! Always going with the pity little warrior code and staying within your boundaries unless you have permission."

Blackpelt ignored the black tom's comment.

"We are looking for Henry, the kittypet."

"You're talking to him, although I am not a kittypet anymore. I am a loner as you Clanners would say. What brings you here?"

"We come from LightClan We came here to find you."

"Why?"

Blackpelt stared into his father's amber eyes. "Because Henry, if I'm not mistaken, I am your son."

Chapter 21 [Edited]

Henry stared at Blackpelt, not saying one word.

A white she-cat with black spots slowly stepped forward.

"Same eyes, same tail, same black pelt, Henry! It's really Crow!"

Henry stepped forward.

"Crow? Is it really you?"

"Yes, but I belong to LightClan. My name is Blackpelt now."

"Blackpelt," Henry repeated. "Reminds me of Shadowpelt. How is she?"

"She's dead." Blackpelt mumbled.

"She can't be! What happened to her?"

"We don't know who did it, but she was slaughtered just days ago."

"I should've never said I hated her. No matter what, I always loved her. I regret what I did, and it will haunt me for the rest of my life."

"I am sure she will forgive you. The past is in the past and you can not do anything about it now."

A dark gray she-cat stepped forward.

"Crow!" She exclaimed. "We have missed you so much! Do you remember us?"

Suddenly, Blackpelt had a vision. He could see the she-cat and himself, play fighting as kits. Then he saw himself playing with the darker tom.

"Stormy? Ash?"

"Crow!" Ash exclaimed. He pressed against Blackpelt's side.

"Our mother, is she really dead?" Stormy asked.

"Yes."

"We never got to meet her. Henry said she was a Clanner and she lived in SmokeClan. What is it like being in a Clan?"

"It feels great! We fight in battles, and border patrols, and hunt! It feels like you're free."

"Do you know how to fight?" Stormy asked.

"That is why we are warriors." Brightfur mewed with delight.

"Teach us, then. There are mean cats that attack around here every now and then. If we show them we are stronger, we will be able to overpower them and bring justice to the other cats." said Ash.

"We will, but we are very tired right now. We had a long journey."

"You may rest here. There is a lake down there to drink from. Mary, will you show these two where they can sleep?"

"Sure, Henry." Meowed the white and black she-cat.

"I am Mary, Henry's sister. Those are my kits, Night and Fluffy." She introduced. "You will sleep in this bush tonight. Don't worry; it's quite comfortable with the ferns and feathers in it."

"Thank you, Mar-" Brightfur's Thanks was interrupted by coughing.

"What is the matter? Are you sick."

"She almost drowned in the river. The water is still in her lungs." Blackpelt explained.

"I see. Stormy, can you help Brightfur, over here?"

"I'd be glad to." Stormy mewed.

Blackpelt went in the bush while Brightfur was being treated. He

closed his eyes and enjoyed a nice, long, sleep.

Chapter 22 [Edited]

Blackpelt woke up and stretched. Brightfur was in a deep sleep.

He padded outside of the bush and saw Henry staring up at the fading stars.

"You're up early." Blackpelt meowed.

"I could not sleep. I've been up for a long time, thinking about Shadowpelt. I hope she forgives me for what I've done."

"I'm sure she has forgiven you."

"Blackpelt, do you want to hunt with me?"

"Sure. Why not? Let's go now. Where are the good hunting places by here?"

"There is plenty. Let's start by the lake."

Henry and Blackpelt down the hill, towards the lake.

"Henry, may I ask you a question?"

"What is it, Blackpelt?"

Blackpelt let out a deep sigh. "Why did you leave me?"

Henry closed his eyes, then looked at Blackpelt in the eye. "I can't deny that I left you in the forest alone. I wanted revenge on Shadowpelt. I had asked her many times to leave her Clan to be with me. She loved someone else. My heart was broken and I wanted revenge. I abandoned you in the forest and I regretted it. I tried numerous times to go back and look for you, but i never found you, or Shadowpelt."

"Is that why you were in the forest the other day?"

"You saw me?"

"Yes. Shadowpelt was there too. We hid from you."

"I see. But yes, that's why I was in the forest."

"But why me? Why did you keep Stormy and Ash?"

"I do not know the answer to that, my son. I don't know what stupidity got into me that day. I ask for forgiveness."

"I forgive you."

"Thank you."

Chapter 23 [Edited]

Henry and Blackpelt returned with their jaws full of prey.

"Wow, that's a lot of prey!" Fluffy exclaimed.

"Yeah, Blackpelt is an excellent hunter."

"I agree on that." Meowed Brightfur.

"Brightfur, how is your coughing?" Blackpelt asked.

"Thanks to Stormy, I haven't coughed all night. Stormy would've made a great medicine cat if she was a Clan cat."

"Stormy *is* very talented with healing." Said Night.

"I wonder what Spottedpaw is learning. Sharpfang is mentoring her while we are gone." Blackpelt meowed to Brightfur.

"I left Redclaw in charge of Frostpaw. I'm sure he will be a good mentor when he gets an apprentice." Brightfur replied.

"It won't be long until they go to their first gathering."

"They already fight like warriors!" Brightfur exclaimed.

"Uh-oh," Henry growled, pointing his tail to the shadows of massive cats on the very top of the hill. "They are coming."

"Who?" Blackpelt asked.

"Those mean cats. They attack us and steal our prey almost every day. They sleep in allies filled with prey, but they still don't know how to hunt for themselves."

"What's going on?" Mary asked as she appeared from the bush with Stormy and Ash.

"They're coming."

"But we haven't even learned how to fight yet!" Stormy exclaimed.

"Just follow our lead. Brightfur and I can fight." Blackpelt mumbled as he unsheathed his claws.

The two Clan cats stood in front of the loners, with claws unsheathed and fur prickling.

The cats were coming down the hill near where the loners sheltered.

"Greetings, Henry." Growled a big, gray tabby.

"What do you want, Stripes?" Henry growled back.

"Your prey. Who are the two furballs?"

"The name is Blackpelt, and that's Brightfur." Blackpelt growled. "You're not getting the prey that is rightfully theirs. Either fight us, or learn how to hunt. Of course hunting requires thinking, but I don't think you have the brains for it."

The gray tabby pounced at Blackpelt, but he was too fast, and he dodged. The tabby tumbled to the ground.

More cats began to attack, but the loners did the same thing Blackpelt did.

The tabby clawed Blackpelt, but Blackpelt had him pinned. He clawed his face and tore his ear until the tabby surrendered and ran off.

The rest of the cats remained and fought weakly.

Pretty soon, all the cats were gone, just leaving the six loners and the two Clanmates.

"That was easy." Blackpelt meowed with laughter.

"Kits can fight better than them." Brightfur and Blackpelt shared a

moment of laughter.

"That actually *was* easy." Said Ash.

"We did it!" Henry exclaimed. "Thank you, Blackpelt and Brightfur. I don't know what we would've done without you."

Chapter 24 [Edited]

"Blackpelt, may I talk to you, alone?" Henry asked.

"Yes, Henry" Henry led Blackpelt by the lake.

"What is it, Henry?" Blackpelt asked.

"Blackpelt, I want to ask you, how would you like to stay with us? Become a loner?"

"A loner?"

"Yes. We need you around. You're strong, and an excellent hunter. You are amazing!"

"But what about my Clan?"

"Blackpelt, think about all the prey you can have. All the peace, quiet, and your kin. Do you accept my offer or not?"

"I'll think about it, Henry, but I don't think it is a good idea."

"See to me when you have your answer then."

"Yes Henry."

"You are very strong, Blackpelt; like your mother. When I saw you fighting, all I saw was her."

Blackpelt did not know what to say. He nodded. Sorrow filled his eyes as he was remembered that his mother was dead. All that was left of his kin was right there, with him, but he has to make the decision to either stay with them, or go home.

If he stayed with the loners, he would be with his family, but, he would have to leave his best friend, Brightfur, and all his friends back at LightClan behind.

If he went home, he would live by the warrior code and stay loyal. He might even become a Clan leader. But if he went home, he would leave his family behind. "I'll think about your offer. I will have my answer tomorrow." Blackpelt muttered.

"Very well, then."

Chapter 25 [Edited]

Blackpelt was at an unfamiliar place.

Suddenly, Shadowpelt stood before him.

"Shadowpelt!" Blackpelt exclaimed.

She was sitting, with her tail wrapped around her paws. She was sitting between a border of light, and a field. Half of her pelt shone on the bright side of the border, while the other half was normal.

"You must choose, Blackpelt." She meowed.

"But what is my destiny?" Blackpelt asked.

"Your destiny lies before you, and you will find out once you choose."

"But I don't *want* to choose. It's a hard decision. Why can't you choose for me?"

"No, Blackpelt. This is *your* decision. *You* choose."

"But what if I make the wrong decision?"

"Whatever you do, changes your destiny; It changes your future, your life, and your relationships with others. Choose wisely." Shadowpelt began to fade.

"Don't go, Shadowpelt!" Blackpelt cried.

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Blackpelt woke up in the bush that he and Brightfur sheltered in.

"Are you okay?" Brightfur asked.

"I'm fine. I'm sorry to wake you."

"It's fine. I was awake moments before you."

Brightfur padded out of the den, leaving Blackpelt alone.

He thought about his decision for moments.

Soon, he had his answer.

He met Henry outside of the bush.

"I have thought about your offer. I have my answer."

"That is great. What have you decided."

"I am with my kin now but, there is so much I will leave behind. I am sorry, but I am staying with my Clan." Blackpelt expected Henry to yell at him for acting like Shadowpelt, but instead, he calmly spoke.

"I understand. Sometimes, we grow attached to where we have grown up and the people we were with. I will miss you."

"Don't worry, I'll try to visit. It would be a quick journey, now that I know where to go."

Henry pressed against his son's side.

"You and Brightfur are welcome here anytime."

"We should get going. Our Clan needs us."

"Take care of them, and follow the warrior code. Your Clan needs strong, loyal cats like you two." Blackpelt was surprised by his father's words. Henry finally gained respect for the Clans.

"Are you ready, Brightfur?"

"Yes."

"Goodbye, Blackpelt." Stormy meowed.

"Goodbye, Stormy. Goodbye to all of you. Thank you for letting us shelter with you."

"You're welcome." Mary meowed with laughter. "Look at you," She pointed her tail to Blackpelt and Henry. "You look alike, it's almost hard to tell you apart."

Soon, the cats finished their goodbyes and Blackpelt and Brightfur were on their way back home.

Chapter 26 [Edited]

Blackpelt and Brightfur knew the way back, which caused them to move faster.

By sunhigh, they were already at the river they found.

"Look, it's that river! We are almost home!"

"I'm not swimming in that thing again!" Brightfur hissed.

"Wait, I think I see a bridge." Blackpelt narrowed his eyes to get a better look.

"It's right there! We can cross!"

They crossed the wooden bridge to the other side and began to climb up the hill.

They met the Thunderpath empty.

"Ready to cross?" Blackpelt asked.

"I'm ready."

Blackpelt and Brightfur crossed the Thunderpath and circled the forest until they reached their own territory.

"Do you smell that?" Blackpelt asked.

"Yes. It smells like crowfood. . . and cats!"

"Let's report it once we get back to camp."

"Good idea."

They soon entered the camp.

Blackpelt gasped as he saw that nearly the whole camp had been torn apart and it reeked of blood. Most cats lied on the ground as

Dawnpaw went from cat-to-cat, trying to treat them.

Dawnpaw was treating Spottedpaw, when Spottedpaw looked up and noticed that her Clanmates were back.

"Blackpelt and Brightfur are back!" Spottedpaw exclaimed.

"Hold still." Dawnpaw ordered while pressing cobwebs on Spottedpaw's wounds. "You lost a little *too* much blood."

"What happened?" Blackpelt asked.

Sharpfang limped over to the two cats.

"I wish you came back sooner. The rouges attacked us again."

Chapter 27 [Edited]

"What?" Blackpelt exclaimed as his eyes swept around the crowd of injured cats.

"We had no idea that they were coming, so we couldn't get backup. No one is dead, but Shinystar lost her seventh life and Silvertail is badly injured, so Dawnpaw is treating everyone on her own."

"Will Silvertail be okay?" Brightfur asked.

"We don't know yet, but she might have to retire. She is the oldest cat in this Clan, and she is forgetting her herbs. It is probably best if she became an elder."

"What about Dawnpaw?"

"Silvertail said she is really skilled with herbs. It's probably time she became a full medicine cat."

"Sharpfang," Dawnpaw meowed. "Everyone is fine. Silvertail is going to need poppy seeds to help her sleep and Spottedpaw has to keep still for as long as possible, until her cut has healed."

"Thank you, Dawnpaw. Is Silvertail still awake?"

"Yes, I haven't given her the poppy seeds yet."

"May I talk to her?"

"You may." Dawnpaw led Sharpfang to where Silvertail lied.

"I wish we were here sooner. We could've helped." Brightfur mumbled.

"Let's help rebuild the camp. It's the least we can do."

Note

That is the end of this book, but don't worry, I'm going to continue the series. The next book will be: "The Other Clans: Hidden Secrets" and it's going to be a long book because I have so much planned for it, so stay tuned.

-Shaggyfur